

Gail Davis

FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT

As founder of one of the country's premier speakers bureaus, Gail Davis makes CEOs, authors, educators, inventors, gurus and inspirational luminaries shine. At Gail Davis & Associates (GDA), she helms a company known for its focus on the client while delivering A-list speakers for events as well as discovering unknown talents who become global phenomena.

Davis' 30 years of corporate marketing and event management experience were the launch pad for GDA over twelve years ago.

Before founding the company, she spent two decades with the global technology conglomerate Electronic Data Systems (EDS) in Dallas. While at EDS, she discovered Nando Parrado, a heroic survivor of the 1972 Andes plane crash that took the lives of many rugby players. Parrado was the keynote speaker for the company's marquis event.

From the success of those early corporate events, Parrado signed an exclusive agreement with Davis, as it was her efforts that convinced him to share his story after so many years. It was that partnership with Parrado that eventually anchored the creation of GDA.

Today, Davis continues to discover new talent and take the professional speaking industry by storm. She is credited with bringing Parrado's harrowing experience to life in the New York Times best-selling book, *Miracle in the Andes*. It is the only book written as a first person account of the Andes plane crash. Most recently, at her encouragement, Parrado lent his personal account to the acclaimed new documentary, "I am Alive," featured on The History Channel.

Under her passionate leadership, GDA has become one of the most esteemed speakers bureaus representing more than 2,600 top-tier names in business, politics, government, entertainment and media.

Her successful business approach and her passion have been magnetic and a plus for the industry. Davis is the 2011-2012 President for the International Association of Speakers Bureaus (IASB). Previously, she served as an IASB Governor where she developed new education programs for members worldwide and drew increased investment in the industry.

Davis is a member of the Entrepreneur Organization. She is also a supporter of numerous community organizations. She is frequently tapped to speak nationwide for industry associations and corporations and is a guest blogger on numerous websites. In 2011, she was honored as one to the top 25 Women in Business by the Dallas Business Journal.

Davis is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma. A native of Oklahoma, Davis resides in Dallas.